

Bishop C.H. Mason, Founder 1907

THE WHOLE TRUTH

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST

"The law of truth was in his mouth and iniquity was not found in his mouth." Mal. 2:6. "Ye shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free." John 8:32.

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C.O.G.I.C. HEADQUARTERS, MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE

JULY, 1993

E&M Present The First!



L to R ... Bishop Span, Dr. Battles, Bishop Moody, Presiding Bishop Ford, Bishop Butts, Bishop Owens and Bishop Jones are presented to the saints.

Baltimore, Maryland. The first ever joint Evangelism and Mission Convention was conducted June 7-12, 1993. This was the first of the conventions to be conducted after the dissolution of the United National Auxiliaries Convention. The First Annual Evangelism and Missions convention ushered in a new era, and with it the hopes of Dr. E.L. Battles and Bishop C.L. Moody for a future of bigger and better ministry. In the convention, these two gentlemen of unquestioned commitment cooperated without difficulty. Both departments scheduled joint and individual activities. Everything appeared to run smoothly and the saints in attendance were blessed.

This was undoubtedly the best little convention conducted in the Church Of God In Christ. The setting was the intimate surroundings of the Omni Harbor Hotel and nearly 500 registered delegates and hundreds of others filled the convention quarters daily. The theme for this first ever meeting was "A Winning Strategy For A Troubled World." From opening day the saints in attendance seemed to be ready for the blessings of the Lord. Saints from as far away as South Africa, Virgin Islands, Germany, etc. were praising God together. The delegations were met and assisted by host bishops and their jurisdictional hospitality committees. There were courtesy cars and local people who worked very hard to assure the comfort of the delegates.

Bishop David W. Spann, prelate of Greater Maryland Jurisdiction and Bishop Stafford Butts, prelate of Maryland Central Jurisdiction were the fine host. Also in the city of Baltimore resides the chairman of the General Assembly, Dr. Frank Ellis. Dr. Ellis could not attend the convention due to being hospitalized. Many prayers were said in his behalf and he is yet on the mend.

Bishop Moody and Dr. Battles found everything to their liking and opened the convention with a bang! The meeting truly got better daily. Of course, prayer and seeking the Lord daily set the tone daily. The morning consecrations were done before breakfast and the early morning sessions. Everything the planners brought before the saints prove to be a part of a winning strategy.

Some of the classes which marked this first conference were as follows, Dr. Mary Webster taught, "Toward More Dynamic Teaching", Elder J.W. Denny presented, "Two Fold Ministry Of The Church", and Evangelist Pearl Page Brown offered, "Global Outreach Ministries Penetrating Satan's Strongholds". "The Fruit Of The Spirit...Spiritual Enrichment Seminar" was presented by Elder Fredrick Gant, and Elder L. Lundy taught, "A General Course In Missions". National Evangelist V. Thornton instructed, "Visitation: Hospital and Convalescent Evangelism and Mission". Elder James L. Moore, Sr. introduced

the saints to his "Evangelism Explosion". The master teacher, Dr. Charles Smith, Jr. presented, "Profile Of A Preacher". Elder Paul Watson provided "Marriage and the Family". As one could see the convention offered the delegates a variety of vital topics and splendid teachers to give instructions.

The preaching was excellent. Each of the presidents preached to full auditoriums. They developed the theme "A Winning Strategy For A Troubled World". Both Bishop Moody and Dr. Battles are seasoned preachers and administrators, it was their joy to see the old faithful guard and new supporters come and register for the entire meeting. Nightly, Evangelist Maria Gardener was in session at the church pastored by Dr. Frank Ellis. The service was called "Revival Fire". It was truly an anointed time. The miracle of a baby in the womb being delivered from a life threatening condition was reported. At the street service nearly thirty people was saved out of doors. Mother Herndon delivered a message entitled, "The Woman Part In The Plan Of Redemption". Dr. Oliver J. Haney spoke at the closing breakfast and turned the place out. Bishop G. E. Patterson... "Do You Have The Anointing". Bishop Solomon Williams, General Board, was also in attendance.

One of the chief highlights was the coming of Presiding Bishop Louis H. Ford. Bishop Ford addressed the banquet at the Omni. The banquet room was filled to capacity with over 400 delegates and an over flow room was prepared. The evening was a total success and the presiding officer reaffirmed that God led him to provide the Evangelism and Missions persons with their own convention. Many bishops and supervisors flew in to fellowship with the presiding officer. His heart was made glad to see the enthusiasm and drive the convention exhibited. His message was one of power and conviction.

SHELTER BEING PREPARED



Supervisor Bell supervises the delivery of furnishing to the shelter.

Memphis, Tn. On a hot summer day in July, the vision of Presiding Bishop L. H. Ford came another step closer to reality. The Mother Mattie McGlothen Homeless Shelter received furnishing for the 38 housing units. The emergency shelter will be a first for the national church and the joint effort between the general church and the

Women's Department is ushering in a new day of ministry. Mother Freddie Bell, liaison for International Supervisor of Women, Dr. Mattie McGlothen directed the placement of furnishings. She was received by Dr. David Hall, who is developing the staff, operations and preparing the shelter for its November opening. The furnishings are quality pieces and make the shelter more like the facility it is scheduled to become. The ladies have also ordered the kitchen equipment and in the near future should have completed their promised contribution.

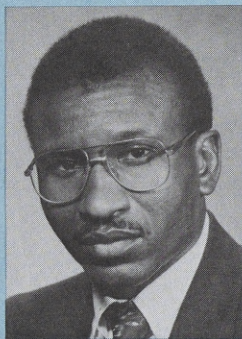
Mother Freddie Bell stated, "The shelter ministry is close to the heart of Mother McGlothen. All her life she has worked in behalf of the needy. And, the Women's Department will provide the furnishings gladly". Of course the ladies have already given \$25,000.00 toward the effort.

Dr. Hall is planning to initiate an advisory committee to develop a strong base of volunteers, through which the shelter should gain stability. This core of volunteers will have the responsibility of creating all the vital daily functions, intake procedures and daily operations. Likewise, Dr.

Continued on page 4

THE WHOLE TRUTH

EDITORIAL SUCCESS IS SUCCESS



Dr. David Hall

The first ever Evangelism and Missions Convention is now an historical fact. The setting for the birth of this well baby was Baltimore, Maryland, and the event was more intimate than the enormous and more dynamic United National Auxiliaries conventions of past days. The convention was obviously a very well managed and controlled activity, where one could see friends and Christian laborers in smaller and more well defined sessions. This first convention made one reflect over the past years and then decided whether or not the former or latter is preferable. I need not embellish the fact that a very good convention was conducted, this editorial must point out that congratulations are due.

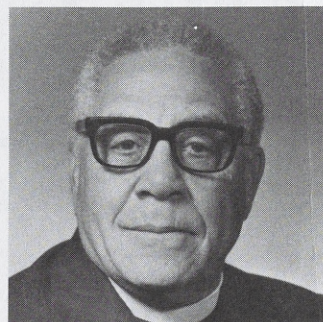
Bishop C.L. Moody and Dr. E.L. Battles are two very fine gentlemen of impeccable character who provided a unified leadership that was encouraging. There was no rivalry and one-upsmanship but rather the business at hand was the order of the day. Certainly, their faithful and

committed workers provided the support and finances to make the entire effort a success. Still, in the Church Of God In Christ our experience demand a spiritual benefit as the primary evidence of success. I can say the convention was very spiritual and a blessing in every way.

Possibly, the fact that the faithful and most committed workers of evangelism and missions were mainly there made the difference. A lot of important bridge building, defining of goals and objectives and simply identifying troops was accomplished. Most of the saints left that convention with a fresh commitment and awareness that evangelism and missions are tied closer than ever. In a way it is right because missionaries establish the places to go and evangelists fire up the vital and continued efforts of the missionaries.

I believe these two groups will have a lasting and profitable association because each is inter-related to the other. Of course, on the human side, I don't think two finer gentlemen could have been placed together in such a cooperative situation as C. L. Moody and E. L. Battles. They will need both prayers and growing support from the more committed and serious persons in the Church to maintain a sustained effort.

Office
of the
Presiding
Bishop



Dear Saints:

Holy greetings to the best people in the whole wide world. I send this letter with great joy because of the tremendous blessings given by God to his humble servant. We are approaching a time when the Saints College campus will be prepared for faculty, staff and students. Many of the last remaining obstacles are being finished and the momentum for opening the school is growing. I am sure that I'm not alone in this feeling. Your prayers and support have indicated the same.

The beautiful building atop Holy Hill is completed and is the focal point of activity in Holmes County, Mississippi. There is nothing like it for miles and the entire building effort has sparked renewed economic and governmental interest in that area. This building is a landmark for the saints and even the larger society. The saints truly are the head and not the tail. In September 93, when the Saints gather to celebrate Bishop C.H. Mason's birthday, the fully completed Deborah Mason Patterson Multi-Purpose Building shall be a symbol of the church's commitment to education.

I am pleased to announce that work on the remaining buildings continues and they too shall be nearly completed for your inspection. This is an historic season in the life of the Church Of God In Christ therefore thank God we have been able to complete the task given.

Please let us hear from you and remember our efforts when you pray.

L. H. Ford
Presiding Bishop
Church Of God In Christ, Inc.



Dr. E.L. Battles and Bishop Moody lock hands in brotherhood.

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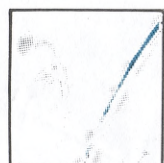
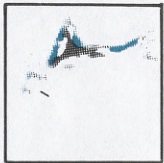
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Editorial Error

In the article entitled "Gifts And Callings" by Missionary Mary Lou Parker, a line of copy was omitted. In paragraph ten, after the quote of the I Corinthians 9:27 scripture, should have been the following, "I heard the testimony of a brother who was incarcerated." Then the following, "The word of God got through to him from hearing a sinner daily mock preachers." This makes it clear that Paul is not the focus of the testimony.

The staff of the newspaper regrets this omission.



THE HOMEGOING CELEBRATION OF MOTHER ALMA JOHNSON

"FOR GOD IS NOT UNRIGHTEOUS TO FORGET YOUR WORK AND LABOUR OF LOVE, WHICH YE HAVE SHEWED TOWARD HIS NAME IN THAT YE HAVE MINISTERED TO THE SAINTS...."

...And now our beloved mother is resting from her labors. Her work on earth has been completed and her soul is now resting with Jesus awaiting our coming.

On June 18, 1993 around 10:00 p.m., the angels were ordered to softly rock Mother Alma Johnson to sleep. Her soul winged its flight from this world of sin, sorrow, and pain to a place of eternal rest.

"Mother Johnson" as she was affectionately called, was born October 12, 1920 to the late Mr. Sam Brown and the late Mrs. Dora Kelley Brown in Oakland, Mississippi.

She was united in holy matrimony to Mr. Ernest Johnson, June 29, 1940. To this union, five children were born, two sons and three daughters.

Her life was touched by the Lord at an early age. On April, 1945, she embraced the doctrine of the Church Of God In Christ under the late Elder Nathan Battle in Grenada, MS.

In 1947, the spirit of God determined that Memphis, TN would be the place for Mother Johnson's life ministry. Upon locating to Memphis, Mother united with the saints of the Temple COGIC under the leadership of the late Bishop C.H. Mason.

During the early fifties, a Prayer Band was started in the Johnson's home. Countless souls were saved and filled with the Holy Ghost, backsliders reclaimed, miraculous healings occurred, perplexed and broken hearts consoled, demons casted out when that powerful word "LOOSE" was spoken with authority and under the anointing of the Holy Ghost through this great woman of God, death was rebuked in our midst and abroad as Mother Johnson and the saints petitioned God's mercy, families were reunited after having been separated for years.

She served her church in many capacities. She was a very loyal member of the Hospitality Group, Advisor for the Young Women's Christian Council and a model Church Mother.

In 1958, while sowing the seeds of this prayer ministry in the home, God spoke to Mother and told her to move the Prayer Band to the Temple Church. Again, Mother obeyed the voice of the Lord and He performed miracles! People from across the country visited the Friday Prayer Band seeking deliverance and answers. God manifested His power as He solved problems, healed souls and bodies, strengthened the weak and set free through this sainted mother.



Mother Alma Johnson

Whatever she touched took on an aura of special intensity. Her life was multicolored tapestry reflecting the beauty of Christ.

God gave Temple a twentieth century Esther. A woman after God's own heart..angel of mercy, prayer warrior, prophetess, teacher, counselor missionary...Now the Mother in Zion is at rest!

She kept her word to the Lord by serving Him with all of her heart (fully committed) and He kept His, by granting her "Three Score and Ten..."

FAREWELL MOTHER! "You have fought a good fight, you have finished your course, you have kept the faith: Henceforth there is laid up for you a crown of righteousness..." I Tim. 4:7-8. Well done thy good and faithful servant, WELL DONE!

Mother Johnson leaves to cherish her memory, a devoted husband: Mr. Ernest Johnson; three daughters: Mrs. Juanita Gilbert of Lincroft, New Jersey, Mrs. Alma Williams of Chicago, Illinois, Mrs. Ruth Stanton of Memphis; two sons, Ernest Johnson, Jr. of Memphis, Jerry Johnson of Stockton, CA; three sisters, Carolyn Tolbert of Oakpark, Michigan, Mary Suggs of West Memphis, Arkansas, Marie Gordon of Memphis; three brothers: Frank Brown of Tracy, CA., Vernon Brown of Holly Springs, MS., Fred Brown of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; two sons-in-law, Michael Gilbert of Lincroft, NJ, Edward L. Stanton, Jr. of Memphis; two daughters-in-law, Ruth Johnson of Stockton, CA., Shirley Johnson of Memphis; fourteen grandchildren, one grandson-in-law, three sisters-in-law, two brothers-in-law; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and friends whose lives were affected by her touch. Finally, she leaves the church family that she loved, and served and the Friday Prayer Band that she gave birth to and nurtured for over forty years.

METROPOLITAN DETROIT AREA BISHOPS MAKE HISTORIC ENDORSEMENT

A dramatic conference meeting of the Church Of God In Christ Bishops whose jurisdictions include Metropolitan Detroit, developed and agreed on an agenda of looking toward the future.

The meeting convened with the mutual consent of Bishop C.L. Anderson, 2nd Assistant to the Presiding Bishop, Bishop P.A. Brooks, Assistant Secretary of the General Board, Bishop E.J. Wright, S.W. Michigan #2 and Bishop J.H. Sheard, S.W. #1.

The bishops focused their attention on urban problems of the city of Detroit such as schools, housing, business development, crime, youth, and senior citizens. In light of the recent announcement of Mayor Coleman A. Young not to seek reelection after serving 20 years as the most powerful Mayor of any American city, the bishops considered the complexities of the coming election. They also discussed the fall elections for the Detroit Common Council, and the candidacy of Cassandra Smith Grey.

While the bishops deferred making an endorsement of a mayoral candidate they did interview and endorse an outstanding civic and community leader, who has served the city of Detroit in areas ranging from teaching in public schools to directing Detroit's neighborhood services department; which includes transportation and food services to seniors, youth programs, as well as the federally funded headstart program which administers some 35,000,000 million dollars a year for preschool training of low income children.

Mrs. Cassandra Smith Grey who has headed the department of neighborhood services for the past twenty years related to Bishop Brooks that our founder the late senior Bishop C. H. Mason's son-in-law, C.M.E. Bishop W.H. Amos officiated the wedding of her parents, and later christened her as a baby and performed her wedding some years later.

Cassandra Smith Grey was delightfully surprised to learn that Bishop Mason assisted in Bishop Walter H. Amos's education and married Alice, Bishop Mason's oldest daughter.

Cassandra Smith Grey is a candidate for one of three vacancies on the Detroit City common council in the upcoming election this fall.

The bishops were impressed with Mrs. Grey's commitment and record of service to the community effecting some 325,000 families annually.

Programs are being designed to operate in the two giant headquarter cathedrals of Michigan's northeast and southwest diocese, known as Cathedral Conference Center on Detroit's eastside, and Bailey Cathedral on the westside of Detroit. Mrs. Grey has served for the last eleven years as campaign manager for Mayor Coleman A. Young and many feel she has played an important role in his five term re-election. She is a devoted Christian, the first Black tax assessor, the first Black certified tax assessor, and previously served as head of the commission on youth.

Also giving his support is the Bishop Elton Lawrence of the East Grand Church Of God In Christ, in Detroit whose jurisdiction is in Canada.



MOTHER I. S. GRAY CELEBRATES 90TH BIRTHDAY

Mother I.S. Gray of the Moore Temple Church Of God In Christ where Bishop A.T. Moore is pastor, celebrated her 90th natural birthday July 9, 1993 and will in the fall celebrate her 52nd birthday in holiness.

Mother Gray was a founding member of the Unity Church Of God In Christ in Greenville, Mississippi. The church grew out of the missionary efforts of Elder and Missionary Harris in 1941. They entered the community, worked in the fields during the day and preached and taught in the evening. The Spirit of the Lord moved in the hearts of the people saving and filling with his spirit. While Missionary Harris moved to a higher calling to receive her reward some years ago her husband continues to maintain contact with the members they introduced to Christ. Mother Gray remembers fondly the hard days of work followed by the joyful times in prayer and praise.

The mission church joined with the Swiftwater church in 1942 to form the Unity Church Of God

In Christ. Under the leadership of Elder Osbond in the early years, followed by Elder T.S. Spates in 1955 and more recently Elder McIntire and then Elder Samuel Foster. The church continues to preach and teach holiness.

Mother Gray served as church secretary, church mother, bible band leader, and wherever needed during her years at Unity. Even after being confined to a wheel chair she continued her work. The members built a ramp so that she could continue to attend and serve.

Due to ill health Mother Gray moved to Louisville, Kentucky in 1990 so that her daughter Mrs. Bessie Johnson could assist in her care. It was there she united with the Moore Temple Church Of God In Christ. The warmth and love of the church was more than she ever expected. Mother Gray is the widow of Bud Gray to whom she was married for 50 years, the mother of two children, a son now deceased and a daughter. She also raised three grandchildren as well as a great grandchild.

Mother Gray gives God the glory for the strength to face life's challenges and all the good life has brought her.

THE WHOLE TRUTH

ALTAR TO ALTAR

Congratulations to Rosa and Archie Stackhouse who were married on March 9, 1993 at St. James Church. Along with their four children Andrea, Stefan, Jasmine and Devaya, who have been coming to the St. James Soup Kitchen since last year. Archie and Rosa were living together in common-law marriage have been a member of the Linden Avenue community for several years. Archie was strung out on drugs for over 15 years and Rosa was home struggling to make ends meet and raise their children ages 5 months to 6 years old. March 1, 1993 marked a turning point in the lives of the Stackhouses, for this was the day that they came to the altar in the sanctuary of St. James during the Noon Day Prayer, which became the beginning of a new life for this family.

“Between the Holy Spirit and the love I feel from the people, I can’t help but want to be a part of St. James.”

That very day they both received the salvation of Jesus Christ; but God did not stop there. Archie was also delivered and cleansed of the drugs that he had been abusing for so very long. Nine days later Archie and Rosa came to the altar again; this time to join together in the union of holy matrimony. By the end of the month Archie was filled with the gift of God’s most precious Holy Ghost and the entire family became a part of the St. James Church family committed and determined to serve the Lord. According to Rosa, “between the Holy Spirit and the love I feel from the people, I can’t help but want to be a part of St. James”. Archie says, “I feel so good I can’t explain it”. Praise God saints, Jesus has done it again!

Noon day prayer is held every day at St. James. If you need something special from the Lord come, seek and you will find your blessing just like the Stackhouses family did.....!

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IN
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WHAT WILL SAINTS ACADEMY OFFER?

PURPOSE

Saints Academy/College has a unique purpose and mission that is unparalleled to the public school sector. First, Saints will seek to foster an overall educational environment that defies education’s typical antagonism toward religious pursuits. Rather, Saints Academy/College will work to inculcate spiritual, religious, moral, and ethical qualities in the personal development of its students. Second, while public education avoids addressing areas that might be considered “parental” in nature, Saints will implement consistent approaches designed to establish and solidify family values and constructive social skills. Third, Saints’ academic program will be structured to offer traditional as well as nontraditional instruction, electives, tutoring, and mentoring as school-wide programs. The academic programs are intended to augment and enrich the core curriculum mandated by the Mississippi State Department of Education. Saints Academy will issue a distinctively Christian challenge to its students to explore an achieve to the highest degree of their academic, social, personal, and spiritual potential in a nurturing/supportive environment.

“Saints Academy will issue a distinctively Christian challenge to its students.”

PROGRAM

Saints Academy/College is an educational institution serving per-school and grades 7-12 to commence September 1993 with selection of administration and staff.

Special summer programs to include post secondary training are projected for the summer of 1994.

CURRICULUM OFFERINGS

Programs will be required to meet accreditation standards of 26 units of study for the academic program. In addition, courses such as etiquette and life orientation, remedial instruction, vocational/technical education, computer literacy, arts and crafts, multicultural studies, religious history, Christian thought, and Bible study will enhance the school’s curricular offerings.

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Saints Academy will offer enrichment options in the areas of music, drama, and public speaking. Band/orchestra, debate team, and thespian activities will also be available. The mandated physical education program will provide additional opportunities for students to participate in football, basketball, tennis, golf, swimming, volleyball, soccer, and baseball.

CAMPUS

Saints Academy/College is located on 306 acres of land in the heart of Lexington, Mississippi. Lexington is approximately 50 miles from Jackson, the state capitol. The main campus comprises 13 buildings which include: the Mason/Coffee Classroom Building, the B.S. Lyles Auditorium, the Anne Bailey Dormitory for Women, the F. D. Washington Dormitory for Men, the O.M. Kelly Chapel, the Mattie McGlothen Guest House, the A.M.E. Clemmons Child Care Center, the Faith Hall, the O. T. Jones Dormitory for Girls, the Alexander/Houston Industrial Arts Building, the Gamble/Rice Dormitory for Boys, the Mallory Hall Classroom Building, and the newly erected Deborah Mason Patterson multi-purpose center, located on the top of Holy Hill, commanding an unobstructed view from all points of the campus.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarship opportunities are available through the Charles Harrison Mason Foundation and the State Jurisdictional Scholarship Programs.